



SIS NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE SOCIETY FOR IRANIAN STUDIES



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NEW SIS EDITOR AND ASSOCIATE EDITORS

McChesney, Matthee, and Davis
Named Editor and Associate Editors of
Iranian Studies

Robert D. McChesney, Professor Of Middle Eastern Studies and History at New York University, has been appointed the editor of *Iranian Studies* for a three-year term. He will succeed Professor Abbas Amanat on July 1, 1998.

Professor McChesney is a well-known, distinguished, and prominent scholar of Iran and Central Asia. His interests also encompass the Arab world, Turkey, and South Asia. He has a special research interest in Safavid Iran.

Professor McChesney received his Ph.D. from Princeton University in 1973 and then joined the faculty of arts and science at New York University. He has had visiting appointments at several institutions including Princeton University, Australian National University, University of Cambridge, and University of Tokyo. He has also held

important administrative positions at NYU including chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literatures, associate dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Science, and acting dean of Arts and Science, and acting director of the Center for Near Eastern Studies. He had previously served as the associate editor of *Iranian Studies*.

Professor McChesney is the author or editor of five books including *Waqf in Central Asia* (Princeton University Press, 1991) and *Kabul under Siege* (in press). His other publications include scholarly articles in edited volumes and in journals such as *Iranian Studies*, *Muqarnas*, *Hamdard*, *Islamicus*, *Folia Orientalia*, *Journal of Asian History*, *Asian and African Studies*, *Islamic Art*, and *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*.

His encyclopaedia entries have appeared in *Encyclopaedia Iranica* and the *Encyclopaedia of Islam*. Professor McChesney has received research grants from several agencies including the Smithsonian Institution, IREX, and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.

The Society for Iranian Studies welcomes with enthusiasm Professor McChesney's editorship. *Iranian Studies* has established itself as the leading scholarly journal in the field, and will hopefully continue to make major strides under Professor McChesney's direction.

Effective July 1, 1998, Professors Rudi Matthee and Dick Davis will also become Associate Editors of the journal for history and literature, respectively. Professor Matthee received his BA and MA in Arabic and Persian Language and

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THE SECOND BIENNIAL CONFERENCE ON IRANIAN STUDIES

MAY 22-24, 1998
HYATT REGENCY
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Tentative Program

In addition to the panels and workshops listed below, work is underway to organize several other important panels on various aspects of the field of Iranian Studies. Most notable among them are the following.

1. A panel titled "Spaces and Boundaries: Women in Contemporary Iranian Society." This panel is being organized by Mahnaz Afkhami and will feature Erika Friedl, Azar Naficy, and Mehrangiz Kar.
2. A panel on the recent history of Afghanistan, organized by Ravan-Farhady, and featuring, in all likelihood, Ludwig Adamec, Christine Noelle, and Hasan Kakar.
3. A panel on Iran's economy in the last two decades, being organized by Jahangir Amouzegar.

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- Recent Publications

Essay

Travel & Research in Iran

Sheila S. Blair

Literature from University of Utrecht, the Netherlands. He continued his studies in Tehran (1976-77) and Cairo (1981-83) and received his Ph.D. in Islamic Studies at UCLA, under Nikki Keddie. He taught at UCLA, University of Denver and since 1993, as Assistant Professor in the History Department of the University of Delaware. His publications include many articles in *Journal of World History*, *JESHO*, *IJMES*, *Iranian Studies*, *Itinerario*; his book, *Silk for silver: Iran's silk trade and the Safavid political economy, 1600-1730*, is to be published by Cambridge University Press, in 1998.

Professor Dick Davis was born in Portsmouth, England, in 1945, and educated at the universities of Cambridge (B.A. and M.A. in English Literature) and Manchester (Ph.D. in Medieval Persian Literature). He has taught at the universities of Tehran (Iran), Durham (U.K.), Newcastle (U.K.), and California (at Santa Barbara) and is currently Associate Professor of Persian at Ohio State University. He lived for 8 years in Iran, as well as for periods in Greece and Italy. He is the author or translator of 16 books; in addition to academic works he has published translations from Italian (prose) and Persian (prose and verse) and numerous books of poetry. His translations from Persian include Attar's *Manteq al-tayr* (*The Conference of the birds*, Penguin, 1984, with Afkham Darbandi), a section of Ferdowsi's *Shahnameh* (*The Legend of Seyavash*, Penguin, 1992), Iraj Pezeshkzad's *Dai Jan Napol'on* (*My uncle Napoleon*, Mage, 1996), a selection of short poems from the classical period (*Borrowed ware*, 1996; bilingual edition, Mage 1997), and a book of tales from the *Shahnameh* (*The Lion and the throne*, Mage 1997). He has also written a book on Ferdowsi's *Shahnama* (*Epic and sedition*, Arkansas University Press, 1992) and various articles on Persian literature and the problems of literary translation from Persian.

OPENING SESSION — 8:30-9:20 AM — FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1998

Welcoming Remarks:

1. Michael Bonine, President, The American Institute for Iranian Studies
2. Ali Banuazizi, President, The Society for Iranian Studies
3. Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, Chair, Program Committee

SESSION I — 9:30-11:00 AM — FRIDAY, MAY 22

New Aspects of Sasanian History

Chair: Richard N. Frye, Harvard University

1. Cynthia J. Villagomez, UCLA
Contrasting Views of Kavad I in Syriac Sources
2. Touraj Daryaee
The Disintegration of the Sasanian Empire in the 7th Century
3. Prudence Haper, Metropolitan Museum of Art
Motifs on Sasanian Silver Vessels: The Interaction between Art, Society and Literature

Discussant: TBA

Language and Ethnic Identity: Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Central Asia

Chair: Ali Banuazizi, Boston College

1. Eckart Schiewek, University of Bamberg
Tradition, Modernity or Autonomous Development: the Case of the Khanate of Kokand
2. Fereydoun Safizadeh, Boston University
Dilemmas of Identity in the post-Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan
3. Angela Parvanta, University of Bamberg
The Role of Language in Competing Identities: the Case of the Persian-Writing Pashtun Khalilullah Khalili

Discussant: Baqer Moin, The British Broadcasting Corporation

SESSION II — 11:30 AM-1:00 PM — FRIDAY, MAY 22

The Archeology of Iran

Chair: William M. Sumner, University of Chicago

1. T. Cuyler Young, Jr., University of Toronto
A Historical Survey of Archeological Research in Iran, 1950-1990
2. Abbas Alizadeh, University of Chicago
Cultural Development in Iran from the Origins of Agricultural to the Threshold of Urban Civilization, 8000-3000 BC
3. Holly Pittman, University of Pennsylvania
Administrative Technology in Iran: Seals and Writing, 5000-2000 B.C.

Discussant: William M. Sumner, University of Chicago

Persian and Iranian Linguistics

Chair: Gernot Windfuhr, University of Michigan

1. Garnik Assatryan, Caucasian Centre for Iranian Studies
Remnant of an Indo-European Poetic Term for "horse, stud" in New Iranian: Kurdish *delaz*
2. Shahram Ahadi, University of Bamberg

The Semantic Productivity of Persian Compound Verbs.

3. Barbara Robson, Center for Applied Linguistics
Personal Enclitics in Pashto

Discussant: Gernot Windfuhr, University of Michigan

SESSION III — 2:00 PM-4:00 PM — FRIDAY, MAY 22

Modernization in Qajar Iran

Chair: Abbas Amanat, Yale University

1. Michael Rubin, Yale University
Introduction of the Telegraph to Iran
2. Maryam Ekhtiar, Brooklyn Museum of Art
Harmony or Cacophony: Music Instruction at the Dar al-Funun
3. Kamran Arjomand, University of Halle, Germany
In Defense of the Sacred Doctrine: Muhammad Husayn Shahrastani's Refutation of Materialism and Evolutionary Theories of Natural History
4. Amir Aslan Afkhami, Yale University
Epidemic and Reform: The 1868-1871 Cholera Epidemics and the Roots of Public Health Reform in 19th Century Iran

Discussant: Abbas Amanat, Yale University

Geographical Perspectives on Iranian Studies

Chair: Michael Bonine, University of Arizona

1. Kaveh Ehsani, Johns Hopkins University
Social Movement and Urban Design in Company Towns
2. Ali Modarres, California State University, Los Angeles
Iranian Ethnic Community Development: Identity and Spatial Dynamics
3. Farhang Rouhani, University of Arizona
National Boundaries and Transnational Flows: The Local and Global Processes of Iranian Identity Formation
4. Fariba Zarinebaf-Shahr, University of Illinois, Chicago
A Frontier City between Two Empires: Tabriz during the Early Modern Period

Discussant: Michael Bonine, University of Arizona

Money, Trade and Social Change in pre-Modern Iran

Chair: Vahid Noshirvani, Columbia University

1. Shushanik Khachikyan, Institute of Ancient Manuscripts, Yerevan
Typology of the Trading Companies by the Merchants of New Julfa
2. Patrick Clawson, National Defense University
The Safavid Monetary System
3. Willem Floor, The World Bank
The Qajar Monetary System
4. Christoph Werner, University of Bamberg
Decline or Modernization: The Transformation of Safavid Endowments in the Qajar Period

Discussant: Rudi Matte, University of Delaware

Iranian Modernity: Foreign and Native Views

Chair: Bert Fagner, University of Bamberg

1. Bert Fagner, University of Bamberg
Indigenous Roots of Modernity: Comparative Considerations on Late Persian Chronicles from Bukhara
2. Roxane Haag-Higuchi, University of Bamberg
The Globe-Trotter Back Home: Hajj Sayyah's Distanced View of Iran
3. Anja Pistor-Hatam, University of Bamberg
The Necessary Requirements of Progress, or, How to Become Part of the Civilized World
4. Yuriko Yamanaka, University of Bamberg
Modernization of Iran Seen through Japanese Eyes: Yoshida Masaharu's Mission to Persia

Discussant: TBA

SESSION IV — 4:30-6:00 PM — FRIDAY, MAY 22

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

THE IDEA OF IRAN BY

GHERARDO GNOLI

Istituto Italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente

Introduction

by

Ehsan Yarshater, Columbia University

SESSION V — 9:00-10:30 AM — SATURDAY, MAY 23

The Achaemenid Empire

Chair: TBA

1. Matt Waters, University of Delaware
The Earliest Persians in Southwest Iran
2. Kenneth Mayer, University of Iowa
Alexander and Zoroastrianism: The Dreams of the King
3. Lisbeth Fried, New York University
An Achaemenid Governor in Jerusalem's Court

Discussant: TBA

Iran, Central Asia, and India in Safavid Times

Chair: Robert D. McChesney, New York University

1. Richard Foltz, Columbia University
A Central Asian Vagabond in Mughal India
2. Kishwar Rizvi, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Transformations in early Safavid Architectural Culture: The Shrine of Shaikh Safi al-Din Ishaq in Ardabil, Iran, 1501-1629
3. Giorgio Rota,
The Last of the Safavids: Abul Fath Soltan Mohammad Mirza in India

Post-Constitution Iran

Chair: Reza Sheikholeslami, University of Oxford

1. Oliver Bast, University of Bamberg
A New Quality in Foreign Policy Making: The Komisiyun-e Ta'yin-e Khesarat, 1917-1919
2. Tim Epkenhaus, University of Bamberg
The Persian Newspaper Kaveh: Modernism on the Eve of Reza Khans Coup detat
3. TBA

Discussant: TBA

SESSION VI — 11:00 AM-12:30 PM — SATURDAY, MAY 23

Collecting Persian Art

Chair: Priscilla Soucek, New York University

1. Zeren Tanindi, Uladag University
On the Manuscripts of Jalayirid Shaykh Uways
2. M. Shreve Simpson, Walters Art Gallery
Henry Walters, Persian Art, and the French Connection
3. Tomoko Masuya, National Museum of Ethnology, Japan
Collecting Persian Tiles

Discussant: Priscilla Soucek, New York University

Persian Historiography — Pre-Modern Period

Chair: Elton L. Daniel, University of Hawaii

1. Elton L. Daniel, University of Hawaii
.On the Genesis of Persian Historiography
2. Parvanéh Pourshariat, Independent Scholar
Persian Local Chronicles
3. Sholeh Quinn, Ohio University
Safavid and Moghul Historiography: A Comparison

Discussant: Elton L. Daniel, University of Hawaii

Iranians in Cyberspace (Workshop)

Chair: Juan R. Cole, University of Michigan

Participants: TBA

SESSION VII — 2:00-4:00 PM — SATURDAY, MAY 23

From Monarchy to the Islamic Republic: State and Society in Iran

Chair: Richard Bulliet, Columbia University

1. Benjamin Smith, University of Washington
Choosing your own Opposition: The Rastakhiz Party and Social Resistance, 1975-79
2. Farough Jahanbakhsh, McGill University
Religious Intellectualism in Post-Revolutionary Iran: Issues and Challenges
3. Sussan Siavoshi, Trinity University
The Fragile Pluralism of the Islamic Republic
4. Abbas Maleki, Tehran, Iran
Iran: Post-Election Diplomacy

Discussant: Shaul Bakhash, George Mason University

Lessons from Ethnographic Process in Iran

Chair: Brian Spooner, University of Pennsylvania

1. Lois Beck, Washington University
Local Histories
2. Dan Bradburd, Clarkson College
Iranian Encounters: Fieldwork in the 1970s and Travelers Experiences in the 19th Century
3. Mary Martin, University of Pennsylvania
People, Plants, and Animals: Memories of Fieldwork on the Edge of the Kavar
4. Brian Spooner, University of Pennsylvania
Loyalty and Friendship

Discussant: Willaim Beeman, Brown University

New Elites of Isfahan: Patronage, Esthetics, and Power in Safavid Iran

Chair: Kathryn Babayan, University of Michigan

1. Kathryn Babayan, University of Michigan
The Waning of the Qizilbash and the Emergence of the Ghulams at the Safavi court
2. Ina Baghdiantz-McCabe, Bennington College
The Power of Silk and Silver: the Safavid Shahs, the Armenian Merchants of Julfa and the Politics of Silk, 1590-1694
3. Massumeh Farhad, Sackler Gallery
Safavi Ghulams as Patrons of Miniature Painting
4. Sussan Babaie, Smith College
Safavi Ghulams as Patrons of Architecture

Discussant: TBA

Exile and Imagination

Chair: Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, University of Washington

1. Nasrin Rahimieh, The University of Alberta
The Liquid Language of Exile: Najmeh Najafi's *Persia is My Heart*
2. Hamid Naficy, Rice University
Iranian Exilic Cinema
3. Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, University of Washington
Linear and Spatial Time: Three Poetic Responses to Exile
4. Farooq Hamid, University of Pennsylvania
Prayer and Gray Hair: Nadirpur's Various Exiles

Discussant: Nima Naghibi, University of Alberta

SESSION VIII — 4:30-6:00 PM — SATURDAY, MAY 23

Modern Persian Narratology

Chair: Houra Yavari, Independent Scholar

1. Michael C. Hillmann, University of Texas at Austin
The Blind Owl as Narrative
2. Claus Pedersen, University of Copenhagen
A Reevaluation of Seyyed Mohammad `Ali Jamalzadeh's *Yeki bud-o Yeki Nabud*

3. Houra Yavari, New York
Taxonomies of Disorder: Postrevolutionary Fiction of Persia
Discussant: Michael Beard, University of North Dakota

Changing Iranian Identity (Workshop)

Chair: Nikki Keddie, University of California, Los Angeles

1. Leah Baer, Independent Scholar
Ethnicity and Religion: Maintaining Iranian Jewish Identity
2. Afshin Matin
Iranian Identity and the Modern Nation-State
3. Ahmad Ashraf, University of Pennsylvania
Recent Autonomous Minority Identities and their Persian Partisans
4. Juan Cole, University of Michigan
Modern Iranian Religious Identities
5. Houri Berberian
Change in Armenian Identity: From Religion to Nationalism and Socialism

Perspectives on the Study of Persian-Speaking Societies (Workshop)

Chair: Said Amir Arjomand, State University of New York

1. Abbas Amanat, Yale University
2. Irfan Habib, Aligarh Muslim University
3. Nazif Shahrani, Indiana University
4. Javad Tabatabai, Paris

Discussant: Said Amir Arjomand

SESSION IX — 9:00-10:30 AM — SUNDAY, MAY 24

Wiles of Women — and of Men

Chair: Haleh Esfandiary, Princeton University

1. Jerome W. Clinton, Princeton University
The Uses of Guile in the *Shahnama*
2. Farzaneh Milani, University of Virginia
Nannies, Guile, Plots, and Narratives
3. Afsaneh Najmabadi, Barnard College
Reading and Enjoying "Wiles of Women" Stories as a Feminist

Discussant: Jerome W. Clinton, Princeton University

Aspects of Time and Space in Persian History

Chair: Charles Mellville, University of Cambridge

1. Stephen Blake, St. Olaf College
The Maidan-e Naqsh-e Jahan: Coordination of Time and Space in Safavid Isfahan
2. Ernest Tucker, U. S. Naval Academy
Naders New Capital: Redefinitions of Space in Afsharid Khurasan
3. Robert D. McChesney, New York University
Route Selection by Central Asian Pilgrims in the 16th and 17th Centuries

Discussant: Charles Mellville, University of Cambridge

Tradition and Modernity in Islamic Movements: Problems and Prospects

Chair: Ahmad Sadri, Lake Forest College

1. Mahmoud Sadri, Texas Women's University
Secularization or Profanation: A Debate on the Meaning of Secularization in Iran
2. Hossein Kamali, Columbia University
The Negative Space in the Political Philosophy of Contemporary Iran
3. Charles Kurzman, North Carolina University
The Liberal Thought of Islamic Iran from Bazargan to Soroosh

Discussant: TBA

SESSION X — 11:00 AM-12:30 PM — SUNDAY, MAY 24

Aspects of Medieval Shi'ism

Chair: Said Amir Arjomand, State University of New York at Stony Brook

1. Karim Douglas Crow, American University
Aql, Ilm, Ma'rifa and Hujjah: Imam Ja'far al-Sadiq's Doctrine of Ta'rif (Notification)
2. Said Amir Arjomand, State University of New York at Stony Brook
Evolution of the Idea of Ghayba(t) from Chiliasm to Nomocracy
3. Rasul Ja'farian, Qom Theological Seminary
Dependence of Iranian Shi'ism on the Shi'ism of Iraq

Discussant: Sachiko Murata, State University of New York at Stony Brook

Sports as a Social Institution

Chair: H. Chehabi, Woodrow Wilson Institute

1. Philippe Rocher,
The Zurkhaneh between Tradition and Modernization
2. H. Chehabi,
The Politics of Football in Iran
3. TBA

Discussant: TBA

History as Literature, Literature as History

Chair: Amin Banani, UCLA

1. Soheila Amirsoleimani, University of Utah
Truth and Lies: Irony and Intrigue in Tarikh-i Bayhaqi
2. Julie Meisami, University of Oxford
Problems of Saljuq Historiography
3. TBA

Discussant: Amin Banani, UCLA

SESSION XI — 2:00-4:00 PM — SUNDAY, MAY 24

Human Rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran: Discourse and Practice

Chair: Elizabeth Ann Mayer, University of Pennsylvania

1. Reza Afshari, Pace University
The Discourse and Practice of Human Rights in Iran The Discourse and Practice of Human Rights in Iran
2. Ervand Abrahamian, City University of New York
Political Prisons in the Islamic Republic of Iran
3. Elahe Hicks, Human Rights Watch
Challenges of Monitoring Human Rights Violations in the Islamic Republic of Iran
4. Elizabeth Ann Mayer, University of Pennsylvania
Human Rights Experience since the Revolution: What Lessons Should Be Learned

Discussant: TBA

Classical Persian Culture and Literature

Chair: William L. Hanaway, University of Pennsylvania

1. A. A. Sayed-Ghorab, University of Leiden
Magic in Classical Persian Love Poetry
2. Roxanne Marcotte,
The Philosophical Anthropology of *Bustan-i Qulub* and *Yazdan Shinakht*:
Two Works Attributed to Suhrawardi
3. Abolala Soudavar, Independent Scholar
The Concepts of "Al-aqdamo asahh" and "Yaqin-e saheb"
4. Ethel Sara Wolper, University of New Hampshire
Sufi Building Terminology in Iran and Anatolia

Discussant: Richard Davis, Ohio State University

Art and Architecture in the Qajar Period

Chair: Ahmad Ashraf, University of Pennsylvania

1. Ulrich Marzolph, Encyclopedia of Folklore, Göttingen
Mirza Ali-Qoli Khui, Master Lithograph Illustrator
2. Markus Ritter, University of Bamberg
The Question of Innovation in Qajar Architecture and the Mosque-Madrassa of Aqa Buzurg in Kashan
3. Raisa I. Amirbekyan, Institute of Ancient Manuscripts, Yerevan
The Miniature Paintings of the *Barzu-nama*: An Illustrated Interpolation of the *Shahnama*
4. Heidi Walcher, Yale University
Face of the Seven Spheres: Isfahan between Urban Renewal and Decline

Discussant: TBA

SESSION XII — 4:30-6:00 PM — SUNDAY, MAY 24

CLOSING SESSION

Culture of the Book in Contemporary Iran

by

Karim Emami

Tehran

1997 ANNUAL SIS MEETING AT MESA

The annual meetings of the Middle East Studies Association took place on November 22-25, 1997, at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco, San Francisco. The Society's Council and Business meetings were held on Saturday, November 22. The following reports were presented by Kambiz Eslami, Executive Secretary, Vahid Noshirvani, Treasurer, and Abbas Amanat, Editor of *Iranian Studies*:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Transition from Seattle to Princeton:

In January, the Princeton office received close to 50 boxes of back issues of *Iranian Studies*, for which temporary location was found at the Princeton University Library (a note of thanks is due to Mr. Richard J. Schulz, Associate University Librarian for Technical Services, who approved my request to use the space at the Library for this purpose). The contents of the boxes were noted and sorted out. We also received 5 boxes of documents pertaining to the activities of the SIS office in Seattle. These documents were also sorted and filed. In addition to these documents, the Seattle office sent us an online Access database containing the Society's individual and institutional membership information, which we have maintained with the use of a computer generously supplied by the Princeton University Library. The Library also approved my request for a printer and a student assistant to perform various office tasks. Furthermore, the University's Department of Near Eastern Studies approved a \$500 annual grant to defray the costs of our mailing and printing jobs.

SIS Web Site:

An SIS web site was designed and mounted on a commercial server (<http://www.iranian-studies.org>). It has several membership, conference registration, and abstract forwarding forms that can be used to apply for

membership and register for conferences. The web site is regularly updated to include the latest news about the Society's affairs; most of the items published in SIS NEWS can also be found on the web site.

Membership:

At the time of the receipt of the database, individual membership stood at 376, while the number of institutions subscribing to the journal was 205. Of the former category, only 282 had paid their dues for 1996, while in the institutional category, 154 institutions were current with their subscriptions. At present, the total number of individual members stands at 431, 29 of which are life members, 8 are foreign members waiting to pay via credit cards, 38 are student members, 2 are supporters, 249 are regular members, and 7 are family members. The number of subscribing institutions is 217, of which 93 have yet to renew their subscriptions.

Other Activities:

Two issues of SIS NEWS were published, and two different types of brochures were designed and produced. A list of 1995 publications was also compiled for the Saidi-Sirjani Book Award Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial health of the Society continued to improve in 1997 and we ended the year with a surplus of over ten thousand dollars, which will augment our endowments. Revenues from dues increased but this was primarily because of the addition of four new life members.

The decrease in other categories underlines the urgent need to expand our membership and especially to reverse the decline in institutional subscriptions. The sale of back issues of the Journal fell steeply from the admittedly high level in 1996. Since the Society has a large stock of back issues we have to appeal to the members for help in selling these issues.

Our greatest success was in raising the level of gifts to the Society. The Fund-raising Committee has set an even more ambitious goal to increase the Society's endowment fund to one hundred thousand dollars.

Financial Statement

	1996	1997
Operating Revenues:		
Dues:		
Individuals	12,741.39	10,649.25
Life members	0.00	4,000.00
Institutions	6,130.50	5,738.00
Sale of back issues	3,727.00	324.00
Gifts	783.00	12,162.00
General	(683.00)	(8,652.00)
Saidi-Sirjani fund	(100.00)	(3,510.00)
Conference	0.00	425.00
Interest	2,155.30	2,011.57
<i>Total</i>	<i>25,537.19</i>	<i>35,309.82</i>
Operating expenses:		
Journal	7,055.60	15,571.78
Printing & mailing	(3,998.60)	(11,987.82)
Editing	(3,061.00)	(3,583.96)
Newsletter	1,000.00	1,206.68
Office	2,452.52	3,106.88
MESA	216.29	792.39
Professional & legal	414.15	0.00
Saidi-Sirjani Award	0.00	3,000.00
Other	10,064.47	1,113.72
Computer/Equip.	(4,649.67)	(239.72)
Debt Payment	(5414.80)	0.00
SIS Conference	(0.00)	(372.00)
Web site	(0.00)	(502.00)
<i>Total</i>	<i>21,203.03</i>	<i>24,791.05</i>
Balance:	<i>4,334.06</i>	<i>10,518.77</i>

Our expenditures returned to a more normal pattern in 1997. Expenses for the journal more than doubled as we increased the number of issues to reduce the backlog. This item will increase further in 1998 as we aim to eliminate the delay in the publication dates. In 1997, we made the first payment for the Saidi-Sirjani prize which was awarded in 1996. This award will be a recurrent expense in our budget and is presently funded from a special gift account for the next four years. A new expense item is the Website which was set up this year and will cost about \$1200 annually.

The surplus in our budget should be no cause for complacency. It will disappear quickly should the recent high level of gifts drop. The renewed vitality of the Society requires higher levels of expenditures which can be sustained only by a concerted effort to increase membership substantially above the present level and by a more extensive fund-raising campaign to ensure continuity in donations.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Current Status:

During 1996-97 the status of the journal improved in a number of areas. We published two double issues: vol. 29: 3-4 (Fall and Winter 1996) and vol. 30: 1-2 (Spring-Summer 1997), and will be current by February 1998. We had a greater number of submissions, and the financial status of the journal improved thanks to new fund-raising efforts. Furthermore, a new editor and two associate editors for the journal have been appointed.

Published Issues:

Vol. 29 3-4 of 178 pages consisted of five articles, 20 book reviews.

Vol. 30 1-2 of 185 pages consisting of five articles, one review essay, and 21 book reviews.

Forthcoming Issues:

Vol. 30: 3-4 (Fall and Winter 1997) which will appear in February 1998 is a special issue on Persian literature since the Revolution guest edited by Dr Ahmad Karimi Hakkak consisting of about 20 pieces with translator's notes and the guest editor's introduction.

Vol. 31: 1-2 (Spring and Summer 1998) to go to the press by June 1998 is a special issue on *Encyclopedia Iranian* consisting of about 29 review essays and subject index. It will be about 400 pages. So far, 23 review essays have been submitted. Work on recommissioning the remaining six is in progress. Dr William Hanaway has agreed to co-edit this issue with the present editor.

Transition of Editorship

The new editor, Dr. Robert McChesney of NYU, will take over on July 1, 1998. He will be responsible for vol. 31: 3 and thereafter. The present editor will collaborate with him during the transition period. The new editor will appoint his own book review editors, assistant editor, and editorial board. The office of the journal at Yale will be transferred to NYU shortly before the actual transition. Amin Neshati has stepped down as the assistant editor because of other commitments, but will

assist the new editor during the transition.

Inventory:

Journal's inventory to this date consist of six articles in various stages of review and revision, a symposium of four articles on "Iranians in diaspora" by Dr. Mehdi Bozurgmehr (accepted), about thirty book reviews ready for publication and about sixty commissioned. One special issue on Safavid Iran to be guest edited by Dr. Matthee is in progress and another one by Dr. Chehabi promised.

Acknowledgement:

At the end of his seven and a half-year tenure (1991-1998) the editor would like to recognize the following for their collaboration, commitment, and support:

Sharough Akhavi and Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, former book review editors.

Rudi Matthee and William Hanaway, present book review editors.

Amin Neshati, assistant editor responsible for copy editing and production. Heynie Wheeler, Shahzad Bashir, Michael Rubin and Amir Afkhami assistants to the editor.

Past and present members of the Editorial Board for their support (especially Ahmad Ashraf, Said Arjomand, Ali Banuazizi, Houchang Chehabi, Joan Cole, Farhad Kazemi, Mohamad Tavakoli).

Charlotte Albright and Kambiz Eslami, former and present Executive Secretaries of SIS. President (Ehsan Yarsahter), former and current members of the Executive Committee (especially Alice Hunsberger and Jere Bacharach); Richard Bulliet, the former editor, Jahan Salehi for technical assistance.

A donor who wishes to remain anonymous for supporting the journal in two occasions (1992 and 1996);

Keyan Foundation for assistance for the production of early issues; Bill Hanaway for equipment.

Yale University for providing office, equipment, and communication.

All the contributors, guest editors, and subscribers.

Abbas Amanat
Editor

1997 SIS COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

Thanks to the efforts of the Election Committee (Professors Shahrough Akhavi, Chair, M. R. Ghanoonparvar, William Hanaway, and John Perry) we now have the results of this year's elections for SIS Council. Those elected were:

President Elect:

Farhad Kazemi

Council Members:

Carol Bier and Dick Davis

Student Council Members:

Farooq Hamid

Sunil Sharma

The returning council members for will be:

Ahmad Ashraf
Kathryn Babayan
Lois Beck
William Hanaway
Eliz Sanasarian

The new (1998) Election Committee consists of the following individuals:

Ahmad Ashraf (Chair)
H. E. Chehabi
Masumeh Farhad
Sussan Siavoshi

RECENT PUBLICATIONS IN IRANIAN STUDIES

TRANSLITERATION SCHEME USED HERE IS BASED ON THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS' ROMANIZATION SYSTEM

- Ajaib al-aqalim al-sabah ila nihayat al-imarrah.** Suhrab. Tr. Husayn Qarahchanlu. Tihiran : Sazman-i Tablighat-i Islami, Hawzah-i Hunari, 1376 [1997]
- Amaliyat-i Luristan : asnad-i Sartip Muhammad Shah Bakhti.** Kavah Bayat. Tihiran : Nashr-i Shirazah, 1376 [1997]
- Andishah-i dini va junbish-i zidd-i Rizhi dar Iran.** Husayn Abadiyan. Tihiran : Muassasah-i Mutalaat-i Tarikh-i Muasir-i Iran, 1376 [1997]
- Arzishha-yi paydar dar mimari-i Iran.** Ali Akbar Sarimi, Taqi Radmard. Tihiran : Sazman-i Miras-i Farhangi-i Kishvar, 1376 [1997]
- Aya u tasmim darad biyayad bih Iran : muzakirat-i Shura-yi Amniyat-i Milli, 1357/7/9 va 13.** Tihiran : Markaz-i Asnad-i Inqilab-i Islami, 1376 [1997]
- Az Mashrutah ta Jang-i Jahani-i Avval : khatirat-i Firidrik Ukanir kunsul-i Ingilis dar Fars.** Tr. Hasan Zanganah. Tihiran : Nashr-i Shirazah, 1376 [1997]
- Az zaban-i Daryush.** Heidemarie Koch. Tr. Parviz Rajabi. Tihiran : Karang, 1376 [1997]
- Awzai-i iqtisadi-i Iran dar aghaz-i qarn-i bistum : guzarish-i hayat-i bazargani-i Hind-i Biritaniya izami bih junub-i sharqi-i Iran, 1283-1284 Shamsi / 1904-1905 M.** Tihiran : Muassasah-i Mutalaat-i Tarikh-i Muasir-i Iran, 1376 [1997]
- Chaharumin bist guftar dar mabahis-i adabi va falsafi va kalami va tarikhi ulum.** Ed. Mahdi Muhaqqiq. Tihiran : Danishgah-i Tihiran, 1376 [1997]
- Dairat al-Maarif-i banaha-yi tarikhi-i Iran dar dawrah-i Islami : banaha-yi aramgahi.** Ed. Muhammad Mahdi Uqabi. Tihiran : Sazman-i Tablighat-i Islami, Hawzah-i Hunari, 1376 [1997]
- Farhang-i Muasir-i Ingilisi-Farsi.** Muhammad Riza Batini, et al. 2nd ed. Tihiran : Nashr-i Farhang-i Muasir, 1376 [1997]
- Fihristvarah-i kitabha-yi Farsi.** Ahmad Munzavi. Vol. 3. Tihiran : Anjuman-i Asar va Mafakhir-i Islami, 1376 [1997]
- Hikayat hamchinan baqi.** Abd al-Husay Zarrinkub. Tihiran : Sukhan, 1376 [1997]
- Istalinism va Hizb-i Tudah-i Iran. Ilahah Kutai Tabaristani.** Tihiran: Markaz-i Asnad-i Inqilab-i Islami, 1376 [1997]
- Istimar-i Biritaniya va masalah-i Arvand Rud.** Firuz Mansuri. Tihiran : Muassasah-i Mutalaat-i Tarikh-i Muasir-i Iran, 1376 [1997]
- Khanah-i Irani. Kazim Ghazbanpur.** Tihiran : Sazman-i Milli-i Zamin va Maskan, 1375 [1996]
- Khatirat-i Buzurg Alavi.** Ed. Hamid Ahmadi. Spanga, Sweden : Baran, 1997.
- Khatirat-i Jahangir Tafazzuli.** Ed. Yaqub Tavakkuli. Tihiran : Sazman-i Tablighat-i Islami, Hawzah-i Hunari, 1376 [1997]
- Khatirat-i Muhammad Ibrahim Amir Taymur Kalali : Rais-i il, wakil-i Majlis, vazir-i kabinah-i Musaddiq.** Ed. Habib Lajivardi. [Cambridge, MA] : Tarh-i Tarikh-i Shafahi-i Iran, Markaz-i Mutaliat-i Khavar-i Miyanah-i Danishgah-i Harvard, 1997.
- Kitab-i Tihiran.** Vols. 5-6 in 1 vol. Tihiran : Rawshangaran, 1376 [1997]
- Ma giriftar-i yak jang-i vaqii-i ravani shudahim : mashruh-i muzakirat-i farmandahan-i nizami dar tarikha-yi 57/5/24 va 57/5/30.** Tihiran : Markaz-i Asnad-i Inqilab-i Islami, 1376 [1997]
- Majmuahi az asar-i Sadiq Hidayat.** Ed. Muhammad Baharlu. Tihiran : Tarh-i Naw, 1376 [1997]
- Mashrutah-i Irani va pishzaminahha-yi nazariyah-i "vilayat-i faqih".** Masha Allah Ajudani. London : Fasl-i Kitab, 1997.

Masnavi-i Salaman va Absal-i Nur al-Din Abd al-Rahman Jami. Ed. Zahra Muhajarani. Tihiran : Nashr-i Nay, 1376 [1997]

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Namahha-yi dustan. Compiled by Dr. Mahmud Afshar. Ed. Iraj Afshar. Tihiran : Bunyad-i Mawqufat-i Duktur Mahmud Afshar, 1375 [1996]

Namahha-yi khususi-i Sir Sisil Ispiring Rays, vazir mukhtar-i Ingilis dar darbar-i Iran. Tr. Javad Shaykh al-Islami. Tihiran : Ittilaat, 1376 [1997]

Nigahi bih dunya-yi Khaqani. Masumah Madankan. Tihiran : Markaz-i Nashr-i Danishgahi, 1376 [1997]

Nuskhaha-i gumshudah-i Masnavai : risalah-i mutahavvil-i Sipahsalar. Tihiran : Khadamat-i Farhangi-i Rasa, 1376 [1997]

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Riza Shah : suqut va pas az suqut. Khusraw Mutazid. Tihiran : Muassasah-i Mutalaat-i Tarikh-i Muasir-i Iran, 1376 [1997]

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The administrative and social history of the Qajar period : the story of my life. Abdollah Mostofii. Tr. Nayer Mostofi Glenn. Costa Mesa, Calif. : Mazda Publishers, 1997.

The army and the creation of the Pahlavi state in Iran, 1910-1926. Stephanie Cronin. London ; New York : Tauris Academic Studies, 1997.

The Bukharans : a dynastic, diplomatic, and commercial history, 1550-1702. Audrey Burton. New York : St. Martin's Press, 1997.

Borrowed ware : medieval Persian epigrams. Introd. & tr. Dick Davis. Washington, D.C. : Mage Publishers, 1997.

The Constitution of Iran : politics and the state in the Islamic Republic. Asghar Schirazi. London : I.B. Tauris, 1997.

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Iran political diaries, 1881-1965. General editor, R.M. Burrell ; research editor, Robert L. Jarman. [Oxford?] : Archive Editions, 1997. 14 vols. Contents: v. 1. 1881-1900 -- v. 2. 1901-1905 -- v. 3. 1906-1907 -- v. 4. 1908-1909 -- v. 5. 1910-1920 -- v. 6. 1921-1923 -- v. 7. 1924-1926 -- v. 8. 1927-1930 -- v. 9. 1931-1934 -- v. 10. 1935-1938 -- v. 11. 1939-1942 -- v. 12. 1943-1945 -- v. 13. 1946-1951 -- v. 14. 1952-1965.

Iran's economic morass : mismanagement and decline under the Islamic Republic. Eliyahu Kanovsky. Washington, DC : Washington Institute for Near East Policy, 1997.

Iranian intellectuals in the 20th century. Ali Gheissari. Austin : University of Texas Press, 1998.

Iranian military power : capabilities and intentions. Michael Eisenstadt. Washington, DC : Washington Institute for Near East Policy, 1996.

Islamic and Indian manuscripts and paintings in the Pierpont Morgan Library. Barbara Schmitz ; with contributions by Pratapaditya Pal, Wheeler Thackston, and William Voelke. New York : Pierpont Morgan Library, 1997.

Islamic art in context : art, architecture, and the literary world. Robert Irwin. Upper Saddle River, NJ : Prentice-Hall ; New York : H.N. Abrams, 1997.

Islamic arts. Jonathan Bloom and Sheila Blair. London : Phaidon, 1997.

The lion and the throne : stories from the Shahnameh of Ferdowsi. Prose rendition by Ehsan Yarshater. Tr. Dick Davis. Washington, DC : Mage Publishers, 1998-

The rebellious reformer : the drawings and paintings of Riza-yi Abbasi of Isfahan. Sheila R. Canby. London : Azimuth Editions, 1996.

Revolution at a crossroads : Iran's domestic politics and regional ambitions. David Menashri. Washington, D.C. : Washington Institute for Near East Policy, 1996.

Sultan Ibrahim Mirza's Haft awrang : a princely manuscript from sixteenth-century Iran. Marianna Shreve Simpson ; with contributions by Masumeh Farhad. New Haven [Conn.] ; London : Yale University Press, 1997.

Tamerlane's tableware : a new approach to chinoiserie ceramics of fifteenth- and sixteenth-century Iran. Lisa Golombek, Robert B. Mason, Gauvin A. Bailey. Costa Mesa, Calif. : Mazda Publishers in association with Royal Ontario Museum, 1996.

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NEW JOURNALS

Faslnamah-i gulistan. Vol. 1, no. 1, bahar 1376 [1997]. P.O. Box 2319, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

Pizhuhishnamah-i tarikh-i matbuat-i Iran. Vol. 1, no. 1, 1376. Tihiran : Sayyid Farid Qasimi, 1376-[1997-] <publisher's telephone no. in Iran: 7529380>

SIS BOOK AWARD CITATION

The SIS Book Award Committee (this year consisting of Professors Ali Banuazizi, Richard N. Frye, William Hanaway (chair), and Priscilla P. Soucek) announced the winner of the second book award (for books published in 1995) at the Society's Business Meeting held on November 22, 1997 at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco, San Francisco. The winner was *Sogdian dictionary : Sogdian-Persian-English* by Dr. Badr al-Zaman Gharib (Tehran : Farhang Publications, 1995). This work was chosen by the Committee not only because it is of the highest scholarly quality but also in recognition of its great value to the study of Middle Iranian Languages. Dr. Gharib painstakingly assembled the entries for the dictionary from all the Sogdian literary remains available to her. Sogdian terms are defined in Persian and English, thus considerably increasing the usefulness of the work. This dictionary will greatly facilitate the study of the linguistic heritage of Central Asia and is a notable contribution to the field of Iranian Studies. Dr. Gharib studied Middle Iranian languages with the late Professor Mark J. Dresden of the University of Pennsylvania and later with Professor Richard N. Frye of Harvard.

The runner-up was *Recasting Persian poetry : scenarios of poetic modernity in Iran* by Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak (Salt Lake City : University of Utah Press, 1995). By judiciously working within a modern literary-theoretical framework and writing in a jargon-free style, Professor Karimi-Hakkak has thrown a great deal of light on the history of Persian poetry from the mid-19th to the mid-20th centuries. He has given us an absorbing account of the coming of poetic modernity to Persian literature by illuminating a hitherto obscure period and presenting literary change in the context of social change.

DONATIONS

Several people have made generous donations to the Society since last year. They are:

Iradj Bagherzade	Ahmad Kooros
Olga Davidson	Faridun Muqtade
Khosrow Eghbal	Reza Rastegar
Mohammad Ali Jazayery	Giorgio Rota
Fredrick De Jong	

A gift of \$100 was also given to the Society from the family of the late Richard Cottam in his name. We would like to thank all mentioned for their donations.

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to thank Sh. Akhavi, A. Ashraf, K. Babayan, H. Chehabi, M. Hegland, A. Newman, and E. Tucker for their excellent work in increasing the membership of the Society.

Life Members

Olga Davidson
R. A. Hutchison
R. K. Ramazani

Regular and Student Members

John P. Downey
Habib Borjian
Jafar Javan
Jamile Woods
Elham Panahi
M. Hosein Abghari
Cyrus Mir
Camron Michael Amin
Dick Davis
Mahvash Amir-Mokri
Kiswar Rizvi
Avi Davidi
John W. Limbert
Abbas S. Bagheri
Gary G. Sick
Feraaydoon Motamed Vaziri
Elena Andreeva
Mahmoud Enayat
Moojan Momen
M. Ali Bauukkara
Johan G. J. ter Haar
Jahannama Ebrahim
Mehdi Bozorgmehr
Ramin Ahmadi
Hedley Sutton
Morteza Anvari
Mehrdad Mozayan
Robyn C. Friend
Mansoor Moaddel
Reza Rastegar
Dorothy M. Weaver
Shah Mahmoud Hanifi
John L. Nelson
Laleh Bakhtiar
Kamyar Abdi
Stephen P. Blake
Hossein Kamaly
Todd Lawson
Pooya Alaedini
Peter B. Golden
Iraj Parsinejad
Shokofeh Taghi

Bagher Samsamy
Duncan Haldane
Parvaneh Pourshariati
Hassan Arvin-Rad
Sima Fahid
Barry Rosen
Anne Craver
Faramarz Natzghian
James Reid
Reza Azarmi
Manijeh Katebi-Kashi
Jaleh Pirnazar
Fariba Taghavi
Kamran Arjomand
Fariba Zarinebaf-Shahr
Heidi A. Walcher
Habibeh Rahim
Houra Yavari
Mehri Samadi
Mohammad Estelami
Mohamad Reza Samii
Elaheh Kheirandish/Hormoz
Goodarzy
Amjad Hussain Shah
John Joseph Watts
Simin Abrahams
Ian Holliday
Robert O. Krikorian
Andras Riedlmayer
Carl Ernst
Rebecca Cann
Zhand Shakibi
Emily Wells
Shahram Khosravi
Michael Kozuh
Faezeh Faiz
Dariush Asfari
Nazanin Hamidi
Salma Waheedi
Hamid Ghoratolaeyan
Hassan Zand
Maryam Beheshti
Parvin Niknafs
Javad Namazi
Stuart Redding
Hashem Farhang
Mohammad Sharifi
Partow Hooshmandrad
Abolghasem Moazeni
Nilloofar Farrokhpay
Fereydoun Taslimi
Maryam Asadi
Parissa Sarraf
Ramin Takloo-Bighash
Ahmad Sheikhzadeh
Robin Charpentier

SAFAVID ART AND ARCHITECTURE

26-28 MARCH 1998

The British Museum will hold an international symposium, *Safavid Art And Architecture*, on March 26-28, 1998. Papers by art historians, archaeologists, and conservators will examine Iranian architecture, archaeology, ceramics, metalwork, glass, carpets and textiles, the arts of the book, and paper conservation of the Safavid period, 1501-1722.

Since 1974, when Harvard University was host to the Isfahan Colloquium, a new generation of scholars specializing in the art and architecture of Safavid Iran has reached maturity. The Symposium will provide an opportunity for a British audience to familiarize itself with new faces in the field and hear from better-known scholars about their ongoing research. In addition, the Head of the Islamic Section of the National Museum of Iran and two Iranian archaeologists who have been excavating at Ardebil and Hormuz have accepted the Museum's invitation to speak.

Special events associated with the Symposium:

Abolala Soudavar will deliver a lecture on the evening of March 25th at the British Museum on art and artists in transition between the Safavid and Mughal courts.

On the evening of March 26th, the symposium speakers and audience are invited to attend a reception, which will be held in the exhibition, "Princes, Poets and Paladins: Islamic and Indian Paintings from the Collection of Prince and Princess Sadruddin Aga Khan." This exhibition contains paintings from the renowned Shahnama of Shah Tahmasp and other exceptional works from Iran, Turkey and India. For those not already attending the Symposium, there will be a charge of £20 for this evening event.

SAFAVID ART AND ARCHITECTURE: 1501-1722

(This schedule may be subject to change)

Wednesday 25 March 1998

5:00-6:00 Pre-registration

6:00-7:00 *Between the Safavids and the Mughals: Art and Artists in Transition*
Abolala Soudavar

Thursday 26 March 1998

9:00 am Registration

am Introduction
Anthony Welch
Archaeology and Architecture
Sussan Babaie, Fatimeh Karimi, Wolfram Kleiss, Mahmoud Mousavi, Kishwar Rizvi

pm The Decorative Arts
James Allan, Lisa Golombek, Anatoli Ivanov, Souren Melikian-Chirvani, Venetia Porter, Oliver Watson

Reception- private view (time to be announced)

Friday 27 March 1998

am Carpets and Textiles
Patricia Baker, Jennifer Scarce, Mary Anderson McWilliams, Zohreh Ruhfar

pm Paintings and Calligraphy
Ada Adamova, Barbara Brend, Sheila Canby, Massumeh Farhad, Maryam Massoudi, Eleanor Sims, Priscilla Soucek

Saturday 28 March 1998

am Arts of the Book, Codicology, and Conservation
Layla Diba, Anna Contadini, Anne Leane, Helen Loveday, David Roxburgh, Marianna Simpson

For further information, contact:
The British Museum Education Service,
London WC1 3DG
Tel (0171)323-8511
Fax (0171)323-8855
e-mail: educ@british-museum.ac.uk

PH.D. DISSERTATION PRIZE

FOUNDATION FOR IRANIAN STUDIES

Foundation for Iranian Studies announces its annual prize of \$1000 for the best Ph.D. dissertation in the field of Iranian Studies. Students completing their dissertations between July 1, 1997 and June 30, 1998 are eligible to apply for the 1998 prize.

Dissertations must be nominated by the author's advisor and be accompanied by the Dissertation Committee's letter of acceptance.

Applicants for the 1998 award should submit two copies of the dissertation to:

Secretary
Foundation for Iranian Studies
4343 Montgomery Avenue
Suite 200
Bethesda, MD 20814

Deadline for Submissions is August 1, 1998.

NOTICE OF THE BEST DISSERTATION OF THE YEAR AWARD
FOUNDATION FOR IRANIAN STUDIES
1996-1997

The Committee on the Selection of the Best Dissertation of the Year on a Topic of Iranian Studies of the Foundation for Iranian Studies has chosen Dr. Nader Sohrabi's dissertation entitled *Constitutionalism, revolution and state : the Young Turk Revolution of 1908 and the Iranian Constitutional Revolution of 1906 with comparisons to the Russian Revolution of 1905,*

(Continued on page 16)

MESA COMMITTEE EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER TOEFL POLICY

The following is the text a letter sent from MESA's Committee on Academic Freedom in the Middle East and North Africa to the office of TOEFL Educational Testing Service regarding its policy prohibiting students from several countries including Iran from taking the Test of English as a Foreign Language

27 January 1998

Ms. Judith Boyle, Associate Director
TOEFL
Educational Testing Service
Rosedale Road
Princeton, NJ 08541
Fax: 609/279-9146

Dear Ms. Boyle:

The Committee on Academic Freedom in the Middle East and North Africa of the Middle East Studies Association is writing to express its concern with the new policy that effectively prohibits students from Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Libya, and North Korea from taking the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). We also note that this test is required for gaining admission to universities, not only in this country, but also in Canada and Hong Kong.

The Middle East Studies Association comprises 2700 academics worldwide who teach and conduct research on the Middle East and North Africa. The association publishes the respected International Journal of Middle East Studies and is committed to ensuring respect for principles of academic freedom and human rights throughout the region.

We understand that your office has defended this discriminatory policy on the basis of executive order # 12959 and stated that this measure "is based on advice from outside counsel, in consultation with the United States Treasury." It is apparent to us that the executive order # 12959 addresses primarily financial and business transactions with Iran, prohibiting "the importation into the United States of goods and services of Iranian origin," or "the reexportation to Iran of any goods or technology exported from the United States." The executive order contains no reference that might possibly suggest that it apply to students, or that the right to take the TOEFL could be construed as an exchange of "goods and services."

We have additional reason to believe that transactions of academic significance are not included in the trade relations prohibited by executive order # 12959. In 1995 MESA wrote to Richard Newcomb, Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury, to express concerns about the order. We urged that "economic exchanges necessary to legitimate academic pursuits not be constrained or prohibited" by the executive order. In his response Mr. Newcomb assured us that, "The sanctions imposed against Iran by the Order will continue to allow the free flow of ideas between the United States and Iran through travel, scholarly exchange, and dissemination of publications." Copies of our correspondence with Mr. Newcomb are featured in the enclosed copy of a page from the August 1995 MESA Newsletter.

As educators we believe that educational institutions should stand above the political fray and changing political considerations. It appears that your office initiated the inquiry about the applicability of the executive order to TOEFL and asked for the opinion of lawyers and bureaucrats. In the absence of your initiative, it seems highly unlikely that those governmental authorities overseeing compliance with this particular regulation would have ever knocked at your door for enforcement. They hardly bother to check on U.S. exporting companies that routinely ship American manufactured goods to Bahrain for an immediate "reexportation to Iran."

With a touch of irony we can imagine the sense of frustration in eighteen year old students whose desire for U.S. education is thwarted in Tehran, while they notice how well-stocked their stores are with American made appliances. It seems to us that, while the flood gates to trade and commerce are kept open, you are addressing an educational matter outside the intention of the policy makers. It is unfortunate that helpless students are made into the only clear evidence of compliance with a kind of executive order that is routinely ignored by more powerful actors.

Above all, we are concerned with the inherent unfairness of this practice and are alarmed by the implication of this discriminatory denial of academic freedom. We urge you to direct your personal attention to this matter. We respectfully request that you take immediate steps to reinstate equal access to this critical test to all international students without regard to their national origins. This would be compatible with national traditions of the United States and with your own international, educational mission.

Sincerely yours,
Anne H. Betteridge
Executive Director

cc: MESA Board of Directors
Reid Reading, Executive Director, Latin American Studies Association
John Campbell, Secretary-Treasurer, Association for Asian Studies
Kambiz Eslami, Director, Society for Iranian Studies
Nader Entessar, Center for Iranian Research and Analysis

PERSIAN GULF MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION

Gulf/2000" is a membership organization of individuals with professional association with Persian Gulf affairs. It does not accept institutional memberships, but members of academic and commercial organizations are most welcome to join on an individual basis. Since the library is accessible only to members (in order to keep the quality of the dialogue very professional) we do not have links to other sites. The main body of the library is accessed via telnet. We have recently developed a web site (accessible by password) for research purposes, but the current files will continue to be maintained in the telnet (remote login) site.

"Gulf/2000" is sponsored by Columbia University. The Executive Director is Gary Sick and the Deputy Director is Lawrence Potter. Major funding for the project has been provided by the W. Alton Jones Foundation, with additional funding from the Rockefeller Foundation and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. It is not associated with any government.

The "Gulf/2000" project is an effort to address major issues concerning the gulf region on a multi-dimensional basis. It has several objectives:

To establish a network of specialists from every country in the Persian Gulf to maintain contact with each other on important issues even when their governments are at odds, comparable to the Dartmouth conferences between Americans and Soviets during the Cold War. At present, there is no gulf-wide forum to engage regional specialists and research institutions in a systematic and prolonged dialogue on political and security issues.

To organize a series of workshops where participants can get to know each other and become accustomed to an exchange of views on a gulf-wide basis.

(Continued on page 17)

OBITUARY

Dr. Hakob Davt'i P'ap'azyan, distinguished Armenian Armenist, Iranist and Orientalist, died October 28, 1997 in Paris, France at the age of 78.

At the time of his death Dr. P'ap'azyan was the head of the Medieval Manuscripts and Archival Documents Research Section of the Mesrop Mas'toc' Institute of Ancient Manuscripts (aka the "Matenadaran") in Erevan, Armenia, a position he held since 1959. From 1956 onwards he also taught ancient and medieval Iranian history and paleography at the Oriental Studies Faculty of Erevan State University.

During his long and highly productive career in Armenia Dr. P'ap'azyan earned many titles: Doctor of History (1968), Professor (1972), and Honored Scholar of Armenia (1990). His greatest achievement, however, was his status as a leading international authority on the socio-economic and political history of Eastern Armenia in the 15th-18th centuries, inclusive of Armenian liberation movements, Armenian-Iranian historical relations, and historical sources. A prolific author, editor, compiler and translator, he wrote close to 100 books and articles, including several which are still awaiting publication. Furthermore, he compiled, edited, and published unique and valuable Persian, Arabic and Turkish historical documents alongside their Russian and Armenian translations, including such multi-volume series as the "Matenadaranian parskeren vaveragrere" (Persian Documents in the "Matenadaran" (Erevan: 1956-1959, 1968). One of his last major works, which he co-edited with Levon Xacikyan, was the 17th century Armenian source *Hovhannes Ter-Davt'yan J'ul'ayec'u Has'vetumare* (The Account Book of Hovhannes Ter-Davt'yan J'ul'ayec'i) (Erevan: 1984).

Dr. P'ap'azyan was one of the authors of the Armenian SSR Academy of Sciences' multi-volume series on the history of the Armenian people. He also actively participated in many international, all-Union and Republic scholarly conferences and symposia. In addition, Dr. P'ap'azyan trained nearly two generations of Armeno-Iranists from both Armenia and abroad.

Born September 1, 1919 in Tabriz, Iran, Dr. P'ap'azyan received his elementary education at Tabriz's Haykazean-Tamarean Armenian school, and then his secondary education at the Ferdowsi Iranian school. During his years in Iran he was an active member of the editorial board of the Tabrizi newspaper *Arevelk'* (The East). In 1946 he emigrated to Armenia, where in 1950 he received his undergraduate degree from the Oriental Studies section of the Philology Faculty of Erevan State University. From 1951 until 1959 he was first a graduate student and then a Senior Scholar at the History Institute of the Armenian SSR Academy of Sciences. In 1968 he received his doctoral degree by defending his landmark thesis, *Agrarnye otnosheniia v Vostochnoi' Armenii v XVI-XVII vekakh* (Agrarian Relations in Eastern Armenia during the 16th and 17th Centuries) which later became the basis of his 1972 book of the same title.

A member of the Central Commission on Oriental Textual Studies of the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Union, Dr. P'ap'azyan was also a member of the scholarly councils of the Oriental Studies Faculty of Erevan State University; the Oriental Institute of the Armenian SSR (now Republic of Armenia) Academy of Sciences; the History Museum of the Armenian Ministry of Culture; and, since the 1970s, the supreme religious council of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

Funeral services were held at St. Sargis Church in Erevan on November 1, 1997. The Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, His Holiness Karegin I, officiated and also bestowed upon the deceased a posthumous medal from the Church.

(Continued from page 13)

submitted to the Faculty of the Division of Social Sciences at the University of Chicago, as the recipient of the Foundation's 1997 \$1000 award.

The committee praised Dr. Sohrabi's work for "exceptional contribution to the field of Iranian Studies as well as political sociology through an imaginative and innovative approach to the study of comparative revolutions . . . clear statement of the theoretical foundation and the problematic of the subject . . . judicious use of method to relate multivariate historical and sociological data to the specifics in the stages of revolutionary development in societies with significant variations in history, culture, social organization, and tradition . . . elucidation of the role of ideas as a crucial paradigmatic component in shaping process and defining trajectory in revolutionary organization and behavior . . . efficient and intelligent use of primary source material . . . sensitivity to the interaction and impact of intra- and extra- state formations in revolutionary outcome. . . linking pre-revolutionary conditions and post-revolutionary outcomes by well-defined and soundly-structured chain of theoretical argument and factual evidence. . . clarity of meaning . . . meticulous attention to detail . . . good organization of the work."

The Committee also cited for Honorable Mention two dissertations—*Self, culture, and emotion: an Iranian case study* by Dr. Kavous Behzadi of Boston College and *Modernity and identity in Azeri poetry: Mojuz of Shabustar and the Iranian Constitutional era* by Dr. Hadi Sultan-Qurraie of the University of Washington—for their high scholarship, originality, extraordinary clarity, and contribution to their respective fields.

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CONFERENCE ON RETHINKING THE PAHLAVI ERA IN IRAN

A one-day conference on "Rethinking the Pahlavi Era in Iran" was held on December 6, 1997 at St. Antony's college, Oxford University.

The event was organized by Farhad Kazemi, visiting Senior Fellow at St. Antony's. The conference program was as follows:

Session I, "Personal Perspectives," with presentations on "The Shah's Self-Perceptions," by A. Reza Sheikholeslami; and "Personal Recollections of the Shah" by Sir Denis Wright.

Session II, "Institutions and Groups," with presentations on "Industrial Policies and Performances over 1962 to 1978," by Parvin Alizadeh, and "The intellectuals and the Pahlavi State," by Homa Katouzian.

Session III, a roundtable on "Winners and Losers" with presentations on "The Monarchy and the Military" by Farhad Kazemi; "Communications and State Ideology" by Ali Mohammadi, "The Arabs and the Shah" by James Piscatori; and "Political Participation and Parties" by Kaveh Moussavi.

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ABSTRACTA IRANICA

The long awaited issue nos. 15-16 of *Abstracta Iranica* has now been published by the Institut Francais de Recherche en Iran. This volume (418 pages + Persian index) gives 1686 selected references to articles and books published during 1992 and 1993 in any language on Iran and Iranian culture from ancient times to present. Most of the references are given with a critical abstract in French or English; close to one hundred European, American, or Iranian scholars have collaborated to produce this volume.

For further information, please contact:
Yann Richard, Etudes Iraniennes-
Sorbonne Nouvelle
e-mail: yann.richard@univ-paris3.fr
13 rue Santeuil, F - 75231 Paris cedex 05
tel. (33) + 01 45 87 40 69, telecopie +
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and anything else that might be of interest to the members of SIS to Kambiz Eslami,
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NINTH IWSF CONFERENCE

The Ninth International Conference of The Iranian Women's Studies Foundation (IWSF) will be held on June 26-28, 1998 in Washington, DC. Based on the presented suggestions, "the Iranian woman and modernity" was selected as the topic of this year's conference.

For more information, write to:

IWSF

P.O. Box 42653, Washington, DC 20015

Fax: 202.363.8110

E-mail: iranianwsf@aol.com

(Continued from page 15)

To establish and maintain an electronic library, research facility and bulletin board on the Internet, accessible to all participants in the project. The creation of an "electronic community" permits participants to maintain contact on a continuous basis and is intended to promote an on-going dialogue among a larger group of experts than those able to attend the workshops.

To commission a series of research papers from experts in the field to examine long-term trends affecting the future stability and security of the Persian Gulf region. These papers serve as the intellectual agenda for the workshops and have already resulted in one publication co-edited by Gary Sick and Lawrence Potter, "The Persian Gulf at the Millennium: Essays in Politics, Economy, Security and Religion" (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1997).

To consider policy alternatives that would promote regional security, stability and non-proliferation, and to communicate those proposals to the gulf states and influential external powers.

Three international conferences have been held so far. The first was at the ENI training facility at Casteldolfo, Italy, in July 1994. The second meeting, which focused on security issues, was held in March 1995 at the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The third conference was held at the Rockefeller Foundation estate at Bellagio in northern Italy in late July 1995. "Gulf/2000" also co-hosted (with the International Institute for Strategic Studies) a conference on "The Changing Agenda of Gulf Security" at Doha in October 1997.

The Electronic Library of the Project

As part of this project, an electronic library has been created that is available to authorized members who have access to the Internet. There is no charge. Membership is limited to scholars and analysts with a professional interest in the Persian Gulf region. Regrettably, students and the public cannot be accepted for membership. The electronic library provides a wealth of research information, current affairs, and an opportunity to maintain contact with a wide range of individuals who study the Persian Gulf. The project presently has nearly 300 members on five continents, including six countries in the Middle East.

Members of the library are also granted affiliate status in the Columbia University system. Therefore, in addition to the library itself, participants have access to a vast range of research materials that Columbia University makes available to its students and faculty.

Inquiries should be sent by e-mail to Gary Sick at: ggs2@columbia.edu

TRAVEL & RESEARCH IN IRAN

SHEILA S. BLAIR

This fall, after a hiatus of 19 years, I went back to Iran for a three-week visit. Since I've returned, I have been asked repeatedly, So, how was it? To tell everyone just how wonderful it was, I am writing this little article about travelling and research in Iran.

Getting a visa was no problem for me. Since I went as the escort/lecturer with a tour, the tour company got me a 3-week tourist visa. It is also possible to get one's own visa: I met several people in Iran who had them. It's a little more difficult, however, and sometimes you have to apply several times or contact sympathetic people in the UN Mission. I imagine that it will get progressively easier as more Americans travel to Iran.

Once we arrived, everyone, from the man on the street to professional colleagues, was pleased to see Americans. All the people we met were warm and friendly, going out of their way to be hospitable. For example, in the small town of Natanz where I had done research on my dissertation, one lady, upon learning that we were Americans, rushed off to her car and produced a basketful of freshly picked apples. We must have looked underfed! There were lots of graffiti with *marg bar Amrika* scrawled on the walls. Several hotels also had large brass signs over the doorway that said in English "Down with USA." This upset several members of my group, but it seemed to reflect formal rhetoric rather than popular opinion. Even the porters were welcoming.

We traveled extensively: Tehran, Mashhad, Shiraz, Yazd, Kerman, Isfahan and the Caspian area. There are many new airports in outlying cities, and the few plane rides we took were packed. Most of our travel was by deluxe bus with all the trimmings (air conditioning, overhead lights, etc.) from a company based in Qum. Driving is slightly hair-raising, comparable to elsewhere in the Middle East. We had two drivers: one, more devout, who had the air of being safely in God's hands; the other who wanted to make up for lost time.

Driving has, if anything, improved over the last years. There are now ring roads around most towns and smaller cities. The traffic in Tehran is much better

(though the air pollution isn't). The zone in the center of the city has been declared off-limits to (most) private cars. There are also special bus lanes, and taxis are readily available (and cheap).

We had some problems with travel on the frontiers. For example, our group was not allowed to go to Tayabad because of fears about the Taliban. But we could go easily to Robat Sharaf, near the border with Turkmenistan, a journey that used to require special permission. There are still roadblocks outside major cities, but they seem to be far fewer than in the old days, and the main focus is smuggling, especially on the route up from Pakistan through Kerman and Yazd.

Tourism is thriving. Virtually all museums and archeological sites are open, exhibits are on display, and personnel are helpful. Most people were pleased to see visitors, find keys, and show tourists out-of-the-way spots. This is particularly true of Islamic sites, the ones that especially interested me. We stopped, for example, at the tomb of Shaykh Yusuf Sarvistani in Sarvistan. The tomb was locked, but the people from the neighborhood insisted on rushing off to find the keys, even when I protested that we hadn't much time. The only place where we had trouble was Isfahan, where the major sites on the *maydan* are only open for specified hours in the morning and afternoon (something like 9-12 and 3-5). The guardians get bored and sometimes leave early or come late. Since they claim they are leaving for prayers, there is nothing to be done but be patient.

There seems to be a conscious effort on the part of the government to be ecumenical. Thus, there is now a visitor center in the Shrine of Imam Reza, where visitors are given a lecture on the openness of Islam. Visitors are then taken on a tour of the outer courtyards (there are several new ones), but the only view into the older areas of the shrine is through a grille into the court of the mosque of Gawhar Shad. At least, the museum is included on the tour. Many in my group were disappointed. I missed seeing the architecture and others missed experiencing a shrine. Our afternoon trip to Turbat-i Jam, which houses a local Koran school,

provided a much more authentic feeling of religious experience. The government has designated the shrine of Shah Cheragh in Shiraz as the one accessible to visitors: we had a night tour there.

The tomb of Imam Khomeini in Rayy, south of Tehran, is also open to visitors and photography (although curiously by males only: the female guards kept pestering me, while their male counterparts kept assuring them that it was okay). I thought the tomb presented an interesting problem of designing a huge shrine with a limited budget, but my group was somewhat troubled by the shoddy materials and airport-like proportions.

Dress for women was no problem. We all wore headscarves. Mine kept slipping down my thin hair, but only once in the Tehran airport did someone gesture to me to pull it back up. Some of our group wore long raincoats. Mine is bright red and patently unsuitable, so I adopted the long baggy jacket-and-pants look. My Eileen Fishers were perfect: cool but dark colors. Several colleagues complimented me on my Iranian style.

Several things surprised me when traveling after 19 years. One was the number of immigrants. Refugee camps are everywhere. Afghans, recognizable by their distinct turbans, are all over Shiraz and other cities in the west. Another surprise was the number of graves. I had not appreciated just how many people, especially young ones, had been killed in the Iran-Iraq war. Most cemeteries have special areas for "Martyrs", often surrounded by grilles and decorated with pictures of the deceased. A third surprise was the emigration from the countryside to cities. We visited a few tourist villages such as Abiyana, a scenic spot in the mountains near Natanz. My pictures from 20 years ago are filled with young boys wearing the local style of flowing black pants. This time, we did not see anyone under 65, except for one slightly demented soul.

After bidding the tour group a fond farewell (it's a bit like having 12 children: wonderful but exhausting), I spent three days in Tehran seeing friends and doing research. Here, again, the reception was heartwarming. Colleagues at the Archeological Institute had arranged for me to give a lecture, which was held at the Carpet Museum. To my surprise,

some 50-60 people turned out, even with only a minimum of publicity. I spoke in English. This was a mistake. Since the lecture was translated sentence by sentence, it cut down any sense of content or flow. It would be better to speak pidgin Persian or have a Persian summary and then just address the slides.

I also did some research in museums. The Iran Bastan Museum has been reorganized. All the pre-historic material is on display on the ground floor of the old building designed by André Godard. A new building next door houses three floors with exhibits of the Islamic material. Most of the masterpieces are on display there, and the museum staff was ready to show me anything else that I wanted to see. I also worked at the Reza Abbasi Museum. There too, the director was willing to let me see anything I wanted and dispatched a helper to open cases and help me photograph what I needed.

The biggest surprise was the Gulistan Palace Museum. With a lot of help from my colleagues, particularly at the Iran Bastan Museum, I was allowed to see two of the most famous manuscripts in the Gulistan collection: the *Shahnama* made for Baysunghur and the *Jamil al-tavarikh* made for Akbar. Although no photography was permitted, I was given two hours to look at the manuscripts. They are in good condition, and it is encouraging to think that possibilities for scholarship are developing.

A tremendous amount of scholarly material is being published in Iran, most of it without much knowledge of what is published elsewhere about Iran. I brought a lot of books to give to colleagues, and they reciprocated. I also bought a lot at museums, but didn't have time to go book shopping elsewhere. As it was, I came home with a suitcase full of books. (The advantage of a transatlantic ticket is that you get two large suitcases). There was absolutely no problem at customs upon returning to the States. Although we had been told we were allowed to bring in only \$100 worth of goods from Iran, customs agents in Boston were interested only in why I would possibly want to go to Iran and what on earth I did there, especially as I come from rural New Hampshire. It was nice to respond that I had had a wonderful time and that the Iranian people are genuinely interested in developing relations with Americans. I suggested to the custom agents that they should plan a trip too.